

I need hardly remind our readers that Col. Waddell, who was the Chief of the Medical Service in the Tibetan Expedition of 1904, made a collection of birds on that occasion. This was unfortunately lost on the return march from Lhasa, except a few specimens which were examined by Mr. Dresser and described by him\*.

IV.—*On further Collections of Birds from the Efulen District of Camaroon, West Africa.* By R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. *With Notes by the Collector, G. L. BATES.*—Part V. †

(Plate III.)

SEVERAL consignments of birds have reached the British Museum from Mr. Bates, and I have in the present paper carried on my description of the collection to the *Timeliidæ* and *Turdidæ*.

As before, Mr. Bates's original notes are signed with his initials, and placed between square brackets [ ].

205. *MACROSPHENUS FLAVICANS.*

*Macrosphenus flavicans* Cass.; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 615 (1905).

a. ♀ ad. Efulen, Dec. 12, 1902.

No. 391. ♀ imm. Efulen, March 24, 1904.

No. 1089. ♂ ad. Zima Country, Oct. 8, 1905.

No. 2508. ♂ ad. Bitey, River Ja. May 10, 1907.

No. 391 seems to me to be a young bird, as it has the throat greenish yellow, a little paler than the under-surface. I would suggest that *M. zenkeri* of Reichenow may be the young of *M. flavicans*.

206. *TURDINUS BATESI.*

*Turdinus batesi* Sharpe; id. Ibis, 1902, p. 94, pl. iv. fig. 2; id. Hand-l. B. iv. p. 34 (1903).

\* P. Z. S. 1905, pt. i. p. 54 (Jan. 1905).

† Cf. for previous papers: Sharpe, 'Ibis,' 1904, pp. 88, 591; 'Ibis,' 1905, p. 461; Bates, 'Ibis,' 1905, p. 89; Sharpe, 'Ibis,' 1907, p. 416.

*Alethe batesi* Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 749 (1905).

a. ♂ ad. Efulen, March 27, 1902. "Mvahume-bijak."

b. ♀ ad. „ April 1, 1902.

c. Ad. „ March 23, 1903.

No. 28. ♂ ad. River Ja, Jan. 1903.

Nos. 224, 238. ♂ ad. Efulen, Nov. 3-9, 1903.

Nos. 268, 283, 292. ♂. River Ja, Dec. 16, 19, 21, 1903.  
"Akalat."

Nos. 491, 509, 564, 568, 575, 605. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja,  
May 14-31, 1904.

Nos. 612, 634, 647, 664, 670, 721. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja,  
June 2-24, 1904.

Nos. 1030, 1057. ♀; 1063. ♂ ad. Efulen, Aug. 10-17,  
1905.

No. 1278. ♂ imm. River Ja, Jan. 9, 1906. Testes very  
small.

No. 1460. ♂ ad. River Ja, Feb. 24, 1906.

Nos. 1548, 1552, 1553. ♀. River Ja, March 14, 15,  
1906.

The sexes seem to be perfectly alike in colour.

Nos. 1713, 1736, 1751. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 3-12,  
1906.

Nos. 1740, 1743, 1758, 1783, 1790. ♀ ad. River Ja,  
June 10-22, 1906. Ovaries granular and small.

No. 1913. ♀ ad. River Ja, Aug. 13, 1906. Small  
ova in ovaries.

Nos. 1949, 1964. ♂ ad. 25 miles from Kribi, Sept. 20, 22,  
1906. Testes very large and of medium size.

Nos. 2017, 2024. ♂ ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Oct. 29, 30,  
1906.

Nos. 2157, 2207. ♀ ♂ imm. Bitye, River Ja, Jan. 12, 27,  
1907.

Nos. 2326, 2343. ♀ imm., ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja,  
March 9, 1907.

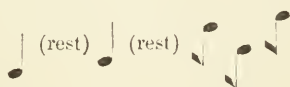
Nos. 2442, 2459. ♀ ad.; 2458. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja,  
April 12-15, 1907.

Nos. 2540, 2543. ♂ ♀ ad. Between Kribi and Efulen,  
June 19, 20, 1907.

Nos. 2580, 2641. ♂ ad. Between Kribi and Efulen, July 1, 17, 1907.

[The little members of the genus *Turdinus*, which are called in Fang and Bulu "Akalat," are among the most secretive of birds, keeping to the dark thickets of the forest. If I had depended upon shooting, I should have got but few specimens. But these birds seem to have a peculiar aptitude for getting hung up by the legs in snares set by the native boys, both in those baited with termites strewn on the ground, and in those set over little streams in places where the birds are accustomed to bathe in the afternoon. *T. batesi* seems to be the commonest species at the Ja, though at Efulen it was not so often obtained as the others.

No. 1460, the only male I ever shot, was first seen in the thick tree-tops, uttering its song, about seven o'clock in the morning. The song was in a clear, sweet but plaintive, whistling tone. The notes varied much in pitch, as is shown here, no attempt being made to give the intervals exactly, as I am no musician, but only to shew that the first note is very low and the last very high:—



This song was repeated constantly in just the same manner and became monotonous. The bird accompanied its singing by spreading its wings. The sex-organs were found to be very large.—G. L. B.]

#### 207. *TURDINUS CERVINIVENTRIS*.

*Turdinus cerviniventris* Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 3 (1901) ; id. Hand-l. B. iv. p. 33 (1903).

*Turdinus fulvescens* (part.) Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 736 (1905).

No. 309. ♂ ad. River Ja, Dec. 27, 1903. "Akalat."

Nos. 380, 381. ♂ ♀ ad. Efulen, March 21, 1904.

No. 429. ♂ ad. Efulen, April 6, 1904.

Nos. 527, 592. ♂ ad. River Ja, May 18, 27, 1904.

Nos. 626, 675. ♂ ad. ,, June 5, 13, 1904.

No. 903. ♀ ad. Efulen, July 14, 1905.

Nos. 1134. ♂. Zima Country, Oct. 14, 1905.

Nos. 1228, 1270. ♀ imm., ♂ ad. River Ja, Jan. 2, 8, 1906.

No. 1607. ♂ ad. River Ja, March 26, 1906. Testes very large.

The majority of the specimens have the wings olive and a little darker than the back; but No. 381 has rufous quills, and No. 592 is moulting from a rufous wing into the olive-coloured plumage, shewing beyond a doubt that the rufous wing is a sign of immaturity.

No. 1692. Ad. River Ja, May 1906.

Nos. 1710, 1772. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 2, 16, 1906. Testes very large.

No. 2019. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Oct. 29, 1906. Testes rather large.

No. 2082. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Nov. 19, 1906. Testes small.

Nos. 2451, 2460. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, April 13, 15, 1907. Testes large.

No. 2518. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, May 19, 1907. Ovary granular.

#### 208. *TURDINUS FULVESCENS.*

*Turdinus fulvescens* (Cass.); Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 736 (1905).

a. ♂ ad. Efulen, Nov. 18, 1901.

b. ♀ ad. „ Feb. 20, 1902. "Akalat."

c. ♂ ad. „ Dec. 31, 1902.

No. 221. ♂ ad. Efulen, Nov. 2, 1903.

d. Juv. Efulen, April 2, 1903.

Nos. 398, 399. ♂ ad. Efulen, March 25, 26, 1904.

No. 427. ♂ ad. Efulen, April 5, 1904.

No. 721. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 24, 1904.

No. 759. ♂ ad. Efulen, June 12, 1905.

Nos. 944, 945. ♂ ♀ ad. Efulen, July 21, 1905.

No. 971. ♂ ad. Efulen, July 27, 1905.

Nos. 1027, 1035. ♀. Efulen, August 10, 11, 1905.

- No. 1438. ♂ ad. River Ja, Feb. 18, 1906.  
 No. 1546. ♂ ad. „ March 14, 1906.  
 No. 1766. ♀ ad. „ June 14, 1906.  
 Nos. 1951, 1954, 1957, 1958. ♂ ad. 25 miles from  
 Kribi, Sept. 20, 1906. Testes large.  
 No. 2018. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Oct. 29, 1906. Testes  
 large.  
 No. 2214. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Jan. 28, 1907. Testes  
 large.  
 No. 2360. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, March 19, 1907. Ovary  
 granular.  
 Nos. 2520, 2522. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, May 19, 20,  
 1907.  
 Nos. 2547, 2553. ♂ ad. et ♀ imm. Between Kribi and  
 Efulen, June 20, 21, 1907. Testes very large.  
 Nos. 2581, 2582. ♂ ♀ ad. Between Kribi and Efulen,  
 July 2, 1907.

I quite agree with Mr. Boyd Alexander that *T. rufipennis* is the young of *T. rufescens*, and I regret that I separated the two forms in the 'Hand-list of Birds.' He has also united *T. albipectus* of Reichenow, but I am not quite convinced of the identity of the latter species, as some of the specimens are very much more white on the breast, with more rufous upper and under tail-coverts.

[A plaintive, monotonous, whistling song (consisting of only two or three notes instead of the five described above, but, like them, varying greatly in pitch), I have good reason to believe, is made by one or both the above species, which are much alike. But I have as yet tried in vain to see the bird which uttered these notes.—G. L. B.]

#### 209. TURDINUS ALBIPECTUS.

*Turdinus albipectus* Reichenow; id. Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 738, cum tab. (1905).

a, b. ♀ ad. Efulen, April 20, 1901.

c. ♂ ad. Efulen, Nov. 18, 1901.

Nos. 134, 138. ♂ ♀ ad. Efulen, April 20, 1903.

## 210. BATHMEDONIA RUFA.

*Bathmocercus rufus* Reichenow, J. f. O. 1896, p. 43, Taf. iii.

*Bathmocercus fuscipennis* Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C. xiv. p. 19 (1903).

*Bathmedonia rufa* Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 742 (1905).

Nos. 459. ♂; 460, 461. ♀ ad. River Ja, March 1904. Testes of male rather large.

No. 558. ♂. River Ja, May 23, 1904.

No. 567. ♀. „ May 24, 1904.

No. 590. ♀. „ May 27, 1904. Eggs forming.

No. 982. ♀. Efulen, July 22, 1905.

No. 1034. ♀. „ Aug. 11, 1905.

No. 1217. ♀ ad. River Ja, Dec. 31, 1905. Eggs beginning to form.

No. 1299. ♀ ad. River Ja, Jan. 13, 1906.

No. 1600. ♂ ad. „ March 24, 1906.

No. 1678. ♀ ad. „ April 15, 1906. Eggs beginning to form.

Nos. 1695, 1696. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, May 1906.

Nos. 1731, 1734. ♀ ad.; 1732, 1747, 1779. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 8-19, 1906.

No. 2001. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Oct. 25, 1906.

Nos. 2098, 2099. ♂ ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Nov. 28, 1906.

No. 2376. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, March 23, 1907. Testes rather large.

The type of my *B. fuscipennis* turns out to be a young male of this species emerging from the dusky (or female) plumage into the rufous dress of the male. The characters of *B. fuscipennis* are those of the immature male. The difference in colour between the sexes is remarkable, and the male is chestnut, with a black forehead and throat and grey abdomen, as figured by Dr. Reichenow. The female, however, is blackish above with an olive wash, the forehead, sides of face, and throat black; the chest and remainder of the under surface are of a dingy ash-colour with an olive shade.





GEOCICHLA BATESI.

211. *Geocichla cameronensis*.

*Geocichla cameronensis* Sharpe, Ibis, 1905, p. 472.

No. 773. ♂ pull. Efulen, June 13, 1905. Testes very small.

Nos. 2624. ♂ juv.; 2629. ♀ ad. Between Kribi and Efulen, July 13, 15, 1907. ♂. Feet whitish; iris dark brown.

The nestling bird very closely resembles the type specimen, but has black margins to some of the feathers of the under surface.

In his last collection Mr. Bates has sent an adult female and an immature male, which agree with the original type. The younger bird has the crown deep chestnut with paler shaft-streaks on the head and upper mantle.

212. *Geocichla batesi*. (Plate III.)

*Geocichla batesi* Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C. xvi. p. 36 (1905).

No. 957. ♂ ad. Efulen, July 25, 1905.

Nos. 2633, 2634. ♂ ♀ ad. Between Kribi and Efulen, July 16, 1907. ♀. Feet whitish; iris brown.

The discovery of this new species of *Geocichla* is very remarkable, for already from Camaroon two species have been described, *G. crossleyi* and *G. cameronensis*, and the former is still represented only by the typical specimen in the British Museum. *G. compsonota* was described by Cassin from Gaboon, and the unique type is in Philadelphia; the species has never been rediscovered, and I was in hopes that Mr. Bates had at last succeeded in finding it. It is evident, however, that the Efulen bird is distinct, as it has not the under surface "white" and the chin "dark cinereous," nor are the upper parts "dark rufous."

*G. batesi* is closely allied to *G. princei* from the Gold Coast, but is lighter rufous above, with the head and neck tinged with olivaceous, and the greater wing-coverts are black, with white spots at the ends; the primary-coverts are entirely black. The facial markings are similar in the two species, but the chest and sides of the body of *G. batesi* are more ashy brown than in *G. princei*, and not so rufescent as in that species.



213. *MERULA SATURATA*.

*Merula saturata* (Cab.); Sharpe, Hand-l. B. iv. p. 128 (1903).

*Turdus pelios saturatus* Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 691 (1905).

Nos. 1245, 1339. ♂ ad. River Ja, Jan. 4, 22, 1906.

No. 1591. ♂ ad. River Ja, March 22, 1906. Testes very large.

No. 2350. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, March 17, 1907. Small ova in ovary.

No. 2499. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, May 7, 1907.

214. *COSSYPHA MELANONOTA*.

*Cossypha melanonota* (Cab.); Sharpe. Cat. B. vii. p. 46 (1881); id. Hand-l. B. iv. p. 165 (1903).

*Cossypha verticalis melanonota* Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 762.

Nos. 519, 523. ♂ ad.; 520. ♀ ad. River Ja, May 17, 18, 1904.

Nos. 673, 680, 687. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 13, 15, 1904.

No. 1554. ♂ ad. River Ja, March 15, 1906.

No. 1652. ♂ ad. „ April 4, 1906.

No. 1676. ♂ ad. „ April 14, 1906.

No. 1726. ♂ ad. „ June 8, 1906.

No. 1897. ♀ ad. „ Aug. 9, 1906.

Nos. 2031. ♂; 2032. ♀; 2049. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Nov. 5, 1906.

No. 2139. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Jan. 8, 1907.

Apparently this series should all be referred to *C. melanonota*, and not to *C. verticalis*, but there is considerable variation in the colour of the back, some specimens being quite black above, while others have a bluish-grey shade. I find that a similar variation takes place among birds from the Gold Coast; and it would appear that *C. melanonota* is not very distinct from *C. verticalis*, for the black back occurs in a series of both of them in the British Museum. The males and females both vary slightly in length of wing, which measures 3·7-4·2 inches.

215. *COSSYPHA CYANOCAMPTER*.

*Cossypha cyanocampter* (Bonap.); Sharpe, Hand-l. B. iv. p. 163 (1903); id. Ibis, 1905, p. 474; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, p. 757.

Nos. 1186, 1214, 1215, 1219, 1223. ♂ ♀ ad. et imm. River Ja, Dec. 24-31, 1905.

Nos. 1712, 1720. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, June 1906.

Nos. 2372, 2373. ♂ ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, March 22, 1907.

The adult female is exactly like the adult male, but a young female is much paler below, and has pale sandy-buff spots on the crown and wing-coverts.

The female is proportionately smaller than the male, as is seen by the following measurements:—

*Male.* Wing 3·45 to 3·65 inches, culmen 0·8 to 0·85, tail 3·1 to 3·3, tarsus 1·2.

*Female.* Wing 3·1 to 3·3 inches, culmen 0·75, tail 2·7 to 2·8, tarsus 1·05.

The specimens obtained from November to March are browner on the back than those killed in June and July.

216. *NEOCOSSYPHUS RUFUS*.

*Neocossyphus rufus* (Fischer & Reichenow); Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 676 (1905).

Nos. 1093, 1128. ♀ ad. Zima Country, Oct. 8, 13, 1905.

No. 1724. ♂ ad. River Ja, June 6, 1906.

There are some slight differences between these specimens and Professor Reichenow's description and figure in the 'Vögel Afrikas.' I do not like to describe the Camaroon birds as new, as I have not been able to compare them with East African specimens.

[These birds were said by the men who shot them to have been found in the forest, on or near the ground, like *Neocossyphus poensis*. The stomach contained fragments of insects, in one case grasshoppers or crickets.—G. L. B.]

217. *NEOCOSSYPHUS POENSIS*.

*Neocossyphus poensis* (Strickl.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1905, p. 475; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 676.

Nos. 1165, 1205. ♂ ; 1189. ♀ ad. River Ja, Dec. 19-25, 1905.

Nos. 1741, 1742. ♂ ad. ; 1804. ♀ imm. River Ja, June 10-26, 1906.

No. 1905. ♂ ad. River Ja, Aug. 10, 1906.

Nos. 1948, 1955. ♂ ♀ . 25 miles from Kribi, Sept. 20, 1906.

No. 2115. ♀ . Bitye, River Ja, Dec. 4, 1906.

Nos. 2252, 2257. ♀ ad. Bitye, Feb. 10, 11, 1907. Ovary small.

Nos. 2470, 2492. ♀ ad. Bitye, April, 17, 25, 1907.

Nos. 2544. ♀ ; 2597. ♂ ad. Between Kribi and Efulen, June 20 and July 5, 1907.

#### 218. ALETHE ALEXANDRI.

*Alethe alexandri* Sharpe, Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 4 (1901) ; id. Ibis, 1902, p. 94 ; id. Hand-l. B. iv. p. 168 (1903).

*Alethe poliocephala* Bp. ; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 746 (1905).

a. ♀ juv. Efulen, April 24, 1902.

b, c. ♂ ♀ ad. Efulen, Dec. 31, 1902. " Akalat."

d. ♂ juv. " Jan. 1, 1903.

No. 155. ♂ ad. " May 7, 1903.

No. 220. ♀ ad. " Nov. 3, 1903.

No. 318. ♂ ad. River Ja, Dec. 29, 1903.

Nos. 627, 628. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, June 5, 1904.

No. 643. ♀ ad. River Ja, June 8, 1904.

Nos. 949. ♂ ; 952, 958. ♀ ad. River Ja, July 22-25, 1905.

No. 1195. Juv. River Ja, Dec. 26, 1905.

Nos. 1206. ♂ ad. ; 1225. ♂ juv. River Ja, Jan. 1-14, 1906.

Nos. 1746, 1767, 1768, 1773. ♂ ♀ ad. et imm. River Ja, June 11-16, 1906.

No. 1822. ♀ ad. River Ja, July 1, 1906.

No. 2016. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Oct. 29, 1906.

No. 2116. ♂ ad. " " Dec. 4, 1906.

No. 2228. ♂ ad. " " Jan. 29, 1907.

No. 2285. ♂ ad. " " Feb. 22, 1907.

No. 2348. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, March 16, 1907.

No. 2491. ♀ ad. „ „ April 25, 1907.

Nos. 2615, 2641. ♂ ad. Between Kribi and Efulen,  
July 11, 18, 1907.

The immature birds have the tips of the greater wing-coverts and innermost secondaries bright chestnut; the breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts are also more fulvous.

I find that the character of the black face is well sustained in the above-mentioned series, and that the species is quite easily distinguished. At the same time I think it extremely probable that Dr. Reichenow's *Callene hypoleuca* is the young of *Alethe alexandri*, in which case the former name will have priority, and the species will have to be called *Alethe hypoleuca* (Reichenow).

An immature bird in the Museum from Camaroon (*Crossley*: spec. c of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' vol. vii. p. 58, s. n. *A. castanea*) is really the young of *A. alexandri*.

[All my specimens have been trapped on the ground in the forest. The bird feeds on insects, such as are found on the ground.—G. L. B.]

#### 219. ALETHE CASTANEA.

*Alethe castanea* (Cass.); Sharpe, Ibis, 1902, p. 94; id. Hand-l. B. iv. p. 168 (1903); Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 747 (1905).

No. 356. ♂ ad. Como River, 60 miles from Gaboon, July 22, 1893.

a. ♂ ad. Como River, July 11, 1896.

b. ♂ juv. Batanga, Dec. 5, 1901.

c. ♀ ad. Benito River, French Congo, Feb. 15, 1901.

“Nzok ntyon.”

d. ♀ ad. Efulen, Nov. 18, 1901.

e. ♀ ad. „ March 25, 1902.

No. 122. ♂ juv. Efulen, April 10, 1903.

No. 151. ♀ ad. „ May 6, 1903.

No. 388. ♀ juv. „ March 24, 1904.

No. 355. ♀ juv. „ Nov. 15, 1904.

- No. 550. ♀ imm. River Ja, May 21, 1902.  
 Nos. 42, 48. ♀ ad. ,, Feb. 1903.  
 Nos. 278. ♂ ad.; 279. ♀ juv. River Ja, Dec. 18, 1903.  
 No. 582. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, May 26-31, 1904.  
 Nos. 746, 747. ♂ ad. et juv. River Ja, June 8, 1905.  
 No. 861. ♀ ad. River Ja, July 8, 1905.  
 Nos. 928, 929. ♀ ad. et imm. River Ja, July 18, 1905.  
 Nos. 1251, 1268. ♀ ad. et imm. River Ja, Jan. 5, 8, 1906.  
 Nos. 1533, 1599. ♂ ♀ ad. River Ja, March 10, 24, 1906.  
 No. 1195. Juv. River Ja, Dec. 26, 1905.  
 Nos. 1221. ♂ juv.; 1222. ♂ ad. River Ja, Dec. 31, 1905.  
 No. 1722. Ad. River Ja, June 5, 1906.  
 Nos. 1940. ♀; 1953. ♂ ad. 25 miles from Kribi, Sept. 18, 20, 1906.  
 No. 2224. ♂ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Jan. 29, 1907.  
 Nos. 2265. ♂ juv.; 2269, 2270. ♂ ad.; 2294. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, Feb. 17-25, 1907.  
 Nos. 2413, 2434. ♂; 2469. ♀ ad. Bitye, River Ja, April 1-17, 1907.  
 Nos. 2562, 2576, 2586, 2589. ♀ ad. et juv. Between Kribi and Efulen, June 25 to July 3, 1907.  
 No. 2601. ♂ ad. Between Kribi and Efulen, July 6, 1907.

The young birds are spangled on the back with black and orange-rufous, the dorsal feathers being black with a central ovate spot of rufous.

[This is another secretive forest bird; it would not be supposed to be so common, were not so many snared. Birds of this species may often be seen, however, by watching in thickets where an army of driver-ants covers the ground and bushes, as they are very fond of feeding on these ants, though they do not come out into open places to do so. It is remarkable how many of the individuals of this species that I have seen, both alive and dead, had the spotted plumage of

young birds. The large proportion of spotted birds seems to shew that this plumage is kept for a long time.

This bird utters a plaintive tremulous whistle, which the natives articulate as "mbofio," with the last vowel prolonged. This is one of the commonest sounds of the dark, lonely forest.—G. L. B.]

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V.—*Ornithological Notes from Japan.*

By COLLINGWOOD INGRAM, M.B.O.U.

(Plate IV.)

I. INTRODUCTION.

THE observations incorporated in the following paper are the outcome of my second visit to Japan, in the early summer of 1907. Reaching Nagasaki on April 20th of that year, I at once hastened to the capital, where I wished to apply to the government as soon as possible for a special permit to collect birds—the legitimate shooting-season having been already closed, on April 15th. But it was only after three weeks of tedious correspondence and many lengthy interviews that the necessary permission was granted, an unforeseen delay that prevented me from doing any real work until the second week of May. Although poaching and illicit shooting are rampant almost everywhere in Japan, a permit is quite needful for the foreign collector, whose movements, especially in the country districts, are naturally followed by the inhabitants with curious interest.

After spending a week or so in the vicinity of Kioto and Nikko I ultimately left Tokio for the slopes of Fujiyama on May 14th. At the recommendation of Mr. Owston the village of Subashiri, on the eastern slope of that mountain, was chosen as my head-quarters. In this neighbourhood I stayed for nearly three weeks and with the able assistance of one, and sometimes two or more Japanese collectors, worked the country very carefully for a radius of some eight or nine miles round the village, at times reaching elevations of 5000 ft. or even more. However, it was still too